

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, Congressman Jim Costa (D-Fresno) announced that two new employees have joined his staff. Jaclyn Murray, a legislative assistant, will serve as Costa's resources, water, energy, and environment staffer, while Ben Parmentier will take on Costa's housing, financial services, budget, labor and veterans issues.

Murray is a native of McFarland, CA and is the daughter of Tom and Cammie Murray. She attended North High School in Bakersfield, CA, graduating in 1999. Murray received a degree in political science from the University of San Diego in 2005, and is currently pursuing a master of public administration at American University. She is expected to complete the program in May 2009. Murray is an avid hiker, backpacker and skier.

Parmentier previously worked in Costa's Fresno District office as a constituent services assistant and then last fall, worked as field director on Costa's successful reelection campaign. He graduated Gilroy High School in 2004 and then attended Fresno State. In May 2008, Parmentier received a degree in communications. Parmentier held a number of different jobs while in college, including working at a sandwich shop, outlet mall, and as a mystery shopper. His hobbies include skiing and cooking.